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agg4 Pro # 494 PA 494 JOBS, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES, RECREATION WOODLANDS OFFER MULTIPLE USI BENEFITS FOR ALL

FORESTS IN RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PA-494 FOREST SERVICE MARCH 1962



LOOK AT YOUR FOREST RESOURCES

Our country is a rapidly growing giant. To sustain its growth we must move to adjust and bring into balance the uses of our total land resource. Our frequently overlooked millions of smaller-sized family forests can be made a major factor in rural areas development and progress.

A man sizing up the resources of his farm or a committee evaluating the economic and social potentials of a community should examine closely the woodland opportunities. Even areas facing a full-scale rural renewal effort to raise the local economy to a satisfactory level can make effective use of forest lands. Here are the makings of quality lumber, telephone poles, pulpwood, plywood, fence posts, and hundreds of other wood products. Here are jobs and dollars for local people in growing, harvesting, and converting timber into useful items.

Timber is only one treasure of the forest. Wooded land is a reservoir of valuable natural resources—fish and game, commercial decorative plants, medicinal herbs, edible nuts and fruits, and dozens of other income-producing items. Here too is a natural combination of resources that presents the ideal setting in which to develop outdoor recreation enterprises.

Forest land resources, both public and private, should be given thorough consideration in the preparation of the area economic development plan. Attention to wooded lands, both for their place as a major segment of the total area resource and for all their multiple uses, will help insure successful development.

LOOK FOR INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Direct and immediate benefits to a local economy frequently result from wood-using industries supplied with local raw materials. Sound financing, efficient management, products designed for customer demand, and imaginative and vigorous marketing—these are the keys to success.

Opportunities for developing wood-based industries in rural areas are as varied as the imaginations of the planners and the resources of the region. Possibilities range from the production of excelsior and charcoal to the manufacture of furniture and clothes hangers.

Substantial amounts of the high-grade timber sought by the large lumber industries are rare in regions of intermingled farm and woodland. New activities, therefore, must often concentrate on the lower grades and less desirable species of timber or on local primary wood products that do not already have a good market. Ingenuity of the processor often will turn low-grade timber into valuable products.

For many communities, expansion and diversification of existing local wood industries may offer a better beginning than a completely new venture.



LOOK FOR TIMBER CULTURE OPPORTUNITIES



Timber crops, like other agriculture crops, need care and attention to sell at a profit. An unmanaged woodland, like an uncared-for garden, may produce mostly weeds. But a woodland that has been pruned, thinned, weeded, and protected from fire, insects, and disease can be expected to produce continuous crops of readily marketable timber at a profit to the owner.

Tree planting, timber stand improvement, and other intensive forest management measures adopted by landowners not only assure more quality timber and greater financial returns for the future but provide immediate jobs for local

people as well.

Skilled contract crews, properly equipped, often can carry out this work more efficiently and more cheaply than the landowner himself. Performing such services is a growing field of commercial forest management and a promising source of employment in rural communities.

Proper attention to timber culture now will assure a perpetual supply of timber for wood-

using industries in the future.

Credit Can Help.—Like any industry the development of forest resources takes capital. When funds are not available from conventional sources, see the Farmers Home Administration. This agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture makes loans to family farmers to encourage the adoption of better forestry management practices and the expansion of forest resources.





WHILE YOUR TIMBER GROWS

The forests in your community can start paying their way long before the young timber is ready for market. There are plenty of extra dollars in the production and sale of minor forest products and in the new and rapidly growing field of outdoor recreation.

Opportunities in minor products depend on the area, the kinds of trees and other plants growing there, and the season. Small, well-shaped evergreen trees harvested as thinnings after Thanksgiving can be sold as Christmas trees. Evergreen branches obtained from pruning can yield extra income as Christmas greens and wreaths. Pine cones may also be collected and sold for decorations or to a nursery for seed. Nuts, wild berries, maple sirup, and the pine resins used for naval stores are just as much crops as are grain and cotton.

Outdoor recreation is booming all over America. Public facilities cannot take care of present demand. Many privately owned forests are ideal for commercial picnicking, camping, and swimming sites or for winter sports areas. Small charges for daily hunting and fishing privileges, and leases to sportsmen's groups, can also bring extra income to woodland owners.

Development of local commercial outdoor recreation opportunities can boost income of both individual landowners and area businessmen with tourist dollars.

There are dozens of other ways to squeeze extra income out of your woodlands. All



Remember the resources of the st lands when planning your Area's future. The your Rural Areas Development Committee given them full consideration?

Technical panels of advisors, on call to help the local committees, usually include foresters to assist in correlating planned development with available forest resources. The technical panel can help you plan the multiple-use programs for your woodlands, and fit them into the other phases of the overall economic plan.

In his January 31, 1962, farm message to Congress, President John F. Kennedy stated that some rural sections of the Nation will require complete Rural Renewal to rejuvenate the local economy. Rural Areas Development can be the key factor in such renewal. *Use your forest resources*.

